UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/22092
17 January 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 17 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a message from His Excellency Dato' Haji Abu Hassan Omar, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia on the outbreak of the Gulf war. I should be grateful if the text of the message could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) M. Redzuan KUSHAIRI
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex

Statement by Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia
H.E. Dato' Haji Abu Hassan Omar on the Gulf war

17 January 1991

Malaysia is deeply saddened by the outbreak of hostilities in the Gulf. Since the beginning of the Gulf crisis in August, Malaysia has hoped that Iraq would have abided by all relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions and withdrawn from Kuwait by 15 January as required by United Nations Security Council resolution 678 to avoid the use of force.

The United Nations Security Council had from the beginning called for a negotiated settlement of the crisis and adopted a number of resolutions calling upon Iraq to withdraw unconditionally from Kuwait without risking war. As a small nation, Malaysia cannot prevent any action being taken against Iraq if it refuses to withdraw from Kuwait. Malaysia will not accept the invasion of a weak country by a stronger neighbour. Malaysia is especially distressed that the problems between the two Muslim countries could not be resolved in a spirit of brotherhood that should exist among Muslim nations.

As a member of the Security Council then, Malaysia together with other non-aligned countries had exerted every effort to bring about a peaceful resolution to the conflict without the use of force. Regrettably, Malaysia's initiatives were not accepted by the parties concerned.

Even though hostilities have broken out, Malaysia urges the United Nations Security Council to continue its effort in seeking a peaceful solution and bring the war to an immediate end.

Malaysia appeals to Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait to avoid further catastrophe which will not bring any benefits to itself, the Middle East and the world.